IURC News Release

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission 302 West Washington Street, Room E306 Indianapolis Indiana 46204 317.232.2297 office 317.233.1982 fax www.in.gov/iurc

Contact: Mary Beth Fisher

For Immediate Release October 19, 2006

Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission Approves Rate Adjustment for Citizens Gas & Coke

Today in Cause No. 42767 the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC, the Commission) approved a rate adjustment for customers of Citizens Gas & Coke Utility (Citizens).

The 3.59% overall rate adjustment approved results in a net revenue increase of \$14,736,442. The exact residential impact will not be available until the company files its tariff with the IURC. The increase will take effect upon approval of the tariff.

In addition, the Commission granted 100% of the allocation of the debt service costs associated with the Gas Utility System (GUS) and Gas Utility Distribution System (GUDS) bonds in the revenue requirements. This allocation ensures that adequate debt service coverage ratios are maintained. The IURC also approved the funds requested for the following energy efficiency programs: weatherization for low-income households, assistance to the working poor and an education program to promote energy efficiency in schools.

While recognizing the importance of decoupling, the Commission found the company's proposed Volume Variance and Conservation Adjustment ("VVCA") was not in the public interest. In denying the VVCA, the IURC encouraged the company to investigate the development of a decoupling mechanism through a collaborative effort between the company, the Office of Utility Consumer Counselor, the Commission and other interested stakeholders.